(f) if so, how the difference arose

(g) has the Government incurred any loss on account of this difference; and if so, who is responsible for the loss?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(a) Yes.

(b) The cubical contents of the toplings sold are :—

cds. 1513—23—23·- $4\frac{1}{4}$ and

,, 2091—1—8—$7\frac{3}{4}$.

(c) Rs. 22 and Rs. 11 a candy respectively.

(d) Some toplings were remeasured by the Conservator of Forests on the representation of the firm.

(e) The Comptroller of Accounts does not make or record any measurement of timber.

(f) and (g). In view of the reply te (e) above no answer is necessary.

607. Mr. C. J. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether any teak toplings were sold to Messrs. T. Namberumal Chetti & Sons; what is the measurement of the toplings so sold and what the rate charged for these;

(2) were the logs, sold under the above contract, remeasured by the Conservator of Forests; if so, what was the difference in the measurement and what was the amount of money reduced on accounts of this difference;

(3) whether any departmental audit was made regarding this particular contract; and if so, will the Government be pleased to state the result of such audits?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) The Member is referred to the answers to sub-divisions (a), (b) and (c) of question No. 606.

(2) Some toplings were remeasured by the Conservator of Forests on the representation of the firm. The other information required cannot be supplied now.

(3) No audit was made regarding any special contract.

608. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether any teak toplings were sold to Messrs. T. Namberumal Chetti & Sons; what is the measurement of the toplings so sold and what is the rate charged for these;

(2) were the logs, sold under the above contract, remeasured by the Conservator; if so, what was the difference in the measurement and what was the amount of money reduced on account of this difference;

(3) whether any departmental audit was made, regarding this particular contract; and, if so, what was the report of the audit staff?

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Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—The Member is referred to the answer to question No. 607.

Contracts in the Forest Department.

609. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—.

(1) whether the Forest Department invited tenders in the Gazette before giving all the contracts in 1103 and 1104; if not, the names of the contractors to whom contracts have been given without inviting tenders;

(2) whether all the trees that are to be felled and collected were marked before inviting tenders or giving contracts;

(3) what was the total quantity of timber (teak and rose-wood) collected from the A series coupe in 1103 and below 10 vannams in girth;

(4) what is the total number of undersized logs that are felled in the forests as well as those now stocked in the Chalakkudi depot;

(5) has the Department paid the felling and collection charges for these undersized logs to the contractors; if so, the amount so paid;

(6) whether there is a term in the agreement whereby the contractor is penalised for the collection of undersized logs;

(7) whether any undersized logs have been collected from the D series coupe; if so, the quantity of such logs;

(8) who was the officer deputed to inspect and pass the trees felled in the A series and D series coupes;

(9) will the Government be pleased to place on the Table of the House the marking list prepared by the Divisional Forest Officer and submitted to the Conservator of Forests in the recent collection of 9,000 candies of teak and rose-wood?

Mr. K. Govinda Menon.—(1) Yes. None were given without tenders.

(2) Yes.

(3) (a) Cds. 890—19—22—6½.
(b) Cds. 249—22—19—3½.

(4) (a) No undersized trees were felled in the forests.
(b) Twenty-four.

(5) Yes. Rs. 1,093—8—6.

(6) Yes.

(7) Yes. 35 of Cds. 52—2—11—13½.

(8) The Forester concerned marked the trees to be felled. The Conservator of Forests also himself inspected many of the marked trees and passed them.

(9) No list was prepared and submitted by the Divisional Forest Officer.

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